



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6574

January Session, 2011

* ____HB06574TRA__032111__ *

**AN ACT INCREASING THE PERMISSIBLE SIZE AND WEIGHT OF
ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES AND PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF TRAILS ON STATE LAND
FOR USE BY SUCH VEHICLES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 23-26a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 As used in sections 23-26b to 23-26g, inclusive, as amended by this
4 act, "all-terrain vehicle" means a motorized vehicle, not suitable for
5 operation on a highway that (1) is not more than [fifty] sixty inches in
6 width, (2) has a dry weight of not more than [six] nine hundred
7 seventy-five pounds, (3) travels on two or more tires specifically
8 designed for unimproved terrain, (4) has a seat or saddle designed [to
9 be straddled] for off-road riding by the operator, and (5) has an engine
10 with [a piston displacement of] more than [fifty cubic centimeters] five
11 horsepower.

12 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 23-26b of the general statutes is
13 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
14 *October 1, 2011*):

15 (a) No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle on state land
16 without first obtaining a certificate from the Commissioner of
17 Environmental Protection and unless such vehicle is registered

18 pursuant to section 14-380. No certificate to operate an all-terrain
19 vehicle on state land shall be issued to any person [under eighteen
20 years of age] unless such person has completed a safety education
21 course for all-terrain vehicles given pursuant to section 23-26d.

22 Sec. 3. Section 23-26c of the general statutes is repealed and the
23 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

24 The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall evaluate the
25 properties under [his] the commissioner's jurisdiction and the
26 jurisdiction of other state agencies for their use by persons operating
27 all-terrain vehicles and, not later than July 1, 2012, shall make available
28 [some] a portion of three such properties that are located in different
29 counties, for such use. In making such properties available the
30 commissioner shall consider minimizing the impact of all-terrain
31 vehicles on the environment. Before making any property available
32 that is under the jurisdiction of another state agency, the commissioner
33 shall consult with such agency.

34 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 23-26g of the general statutes is
35 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
36 *October 1, 2011*):

37 (b) Any person who (1) knowingly permits a person [less than
38 eighteen years of age] who has not obtained a certificate pursuant to
39 section 23-26b, as amended by this act, to operate an all-terrain vehicle
40 on state land, (2) permits a person less than twelve years of age to
41 operate an all-terrain vehicle on state land, or (3) allows a person
42 between twelve and sixteen years of age to operate an all-terrain
43 vehicle on state land without being supervised by a person more than
44 eighteen years of age, shall have committed an infraction.

45 Sec. 5. Section 14-381 of the general statutes is repealed and the
46 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

47 (a) Any owner required to register a snowmobile or all-terrain
48 vehicle shall apply to the [commissioner] Commissioner of Motor

49 Vehicles and shall file evidence of ownership by affidavit or document.
 50 Upon receipt of an application in proper form and the registration fee,
 51 the commissioner shall assign an identification number and provide
 52 the owner with a certificate of registration and registration plate. The
 53 registration plate, which shall be affixed by the owner, shall be
 54 displayed on the snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle at a place and in a
 55 manner prescribed by the commissioner. In addition to such
 56 registration plate, each snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle so
 57 registered shall display its registration number on each side of its front
 58 section, midway between the top and bottom of said front section, in
 59 letters or numbers at least three inches in height and made of a
 60 reflective material. The certificate of registration shall be carried on
 61 such snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle and shall be available for
 62 inspection whenever such snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle is being
 63 operated. The owner shall pay a fee of twenty dollars for each
 64 snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle so registered. Each such certificate of
 65 registration shall expire biennially on the last day of March.

66 (b) All fees collected for the registration of each all-terrain vehicle
 67 shall be deposited in the General Fund and credited to the
 68 appropriations of the Department of Environmental Protection. Such
 69 fees shall be used to establish and maintain trails for such vehicles on
 70 properties made available by the Commissioner of Environmental
 71 Protection pursuant to section 23-26c, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2011	23-26a
Sec. 2	October 1, 2011	23-26b(a)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2011	23-26c
Sec. 4	October 1, 2011	23-26g(b)
Sec. 5	July 1, 2011	14-381

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*